ANNUAL REPORT COMMISSIONERS OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

lations with Indiana, Massachusetts, Maryland, Michigan, North Dakota, Ohio, Virginia, and West Virginia.

One permit and twenty-three renewals of permits to sell poisons for use in the arts were also issued.

Nurses' Examining Board.

The nurses' examining board examined and approved for registration seventeen applicants for certificate as graduate nurses and one for certificate without ex-

Flour Inspection.

The commissioners of flour inspection were not called upon during the year to decide any cases of dispute as to the

Coroner's Labors.

It is the duty of the coroner to hold manner and cause of death shall not already be known as accidental or in the
course of nature." During the year he Three hundred and forty-two persons died from accidents and other forms of violence, ninety-one of whom were sui-

Washington Asylum.

of employes, \$122.11. house and patients in the hospital, as

Male. Female. Male. Female. Tot. 177 38 80 32

The indigent who receive municipal support are cared for at the Home for the Aged and Infirm, located at Blue Plains, near the southern end of the District. The daily average number of inmates was 276, whose care and maintenance cost \$150.89 per capita, including salaries and maintenance of employes.

Extension of Jurisdiction Into Virginia Advocated

present picturesque features of the secing certain land on the west side of Con- type of pavement on other streets. necticut avenue, opposite the entrance of the Zoological Park, and land lying between the western boundary of that park and Connecticut and Cathedral avenues, containing a little more than 24 acres. The impressive natural beauty of this Park suggest its fitness as a part of the system to which that park belongs. It would be deplorable if the omission to se cure it for that purpose in the near future should lead to its conversion to private-residence or business uses The Commissioners have asked for leg slation to provide for its purchase, and hope the necessary authority will be granted during the present Congress.

Extension of District Limits.

In the judgment of the Commissioner action should be taken in the near future for the re-establishment of the jurisdiction of the United States over such portion of the right bank of the Potomac river within Alexandria county, in the state of Virrinia, as may be essential to the proper evelopment and maintenance of the National Capital.

t is desirable, either from the standpoint of the state of Virginia or of the United states, that the whole of Alexandria county should revert to federal control as there appears to be good reason for limiting the area of the District of Combia to the least amount that will enthe District to fulfill its function as of the seat of the national govern-

But there remains the very important onsideration that those parts of Alexanand in plain view of the capital, especially the portion embracing the palisades of the Potomac below Chain bridge, might easily ne unsightly and mar the beauty o the city which confronts them, as quar ries, both active and abandoned, are aldisfiguring the green slopes and ravines of the Virginia shore. The need to have regard for the esthetic relations these environs with the National Capital yearly increases with the development of the city by buildings, parks and the like, of a monumental character, whose outlook should be in keeping with their ntrinsic artistic importance.

Whatever would essentially benefit the city of Washington would correspondingy inure to the advantage of the contiguous section of the state of Virginia. The area involved in the proposition is about ,300 acres, but over 1.035 acres of that extent is embraced in the Arlington cemetery, Fort Myer, and the experimental farms of the Agricultural Department.

Potomac Water Power.

Commissioners the Secretary of the Interior has intrusted the geological survey, which is a bureau of the Interior Department, with the preparation of a preiminary report, with plans and estimates as to cost, upon the feasibility of transmitting to the District of Columbia the necessary power for municipal lighting purposes from the Potomac river above

In a report made on July 18, 1894, to the Secretary of War (Ex. Doc. No. 154, 53d Cong., 2d sess.) by Col. George H. Elliott and Capt. John G. D. Knight, of the Corps of Engineers of the United States Army, in response to a resolution of the Senate dated March 1, 1894, it is

"We find that electrical power can easly be transmitted from Great Falls to Washington; that there can be constructed at a reasonable cost a power canal around the falls and a power plant below them; that there are available at the lowest stages of the river 6,395 horsepower without storage of water above the falls in the Seneca reach of the river and 8,648 rsepower with such storage.' The improvements in electrical and hytraulic machinery and appliances since that report have doubtless increased the advantages that would be derived from the development of water power near

Grade Crossings Eliminated:

The work of eliminating grade crossings are patched, until a time comes when the improvement of the plaza in front of the new Union railroad station of repair. Then the street must be entirely resurfaced. This is very expensive on long streetches of streets and to connect Newton place in Whitness of the pavement of these funds the pavements are patched, until a time comes when the pavement is so worn out that it hampshire avenue to Georgia avenue and to connect Newton place in Gass of the pavement is so worn out that it is no longer economical to use this method of the pavement is so worn out that it is no longer economical to use this method of the pavement of the pavement is so worn out that it is no longer economical to use this method of the pavement is so worn out that it is no longer economical to use this method of the pavement is so worn out that it is no longer economical to use this method. February 12, 1901, and February 28, 1903, has practically been completed, and no further appropriation will be calculated. This is very expensive on long stretches of streets, and consequently it is impossible with the funds allotted to keep the streets in good further appropriation will be asked for in shape. the next fiscal year.

roadways in the plaza and the intersecting streets, and this has been accomchine is used, the old surface being heated plished. The paving used was sheet through, the upper crust taken off, and asphalt and asphalt block.

granted to eliminate the grade crossing at Cedar street, Takoma Park, by the face obtained by the use of this method construction of a suitable subway and bridge under the railroad tracks at this point. Plans for this work are the railroad tracks at this

Laying sheet asphalt pavement...... \$1.45½ Laying vitrified brick gutters Laying asphalt block:
4-inch asphalt block pavements—
Within city limits 3-inch asphalt block pavement on a 4-

(1911) are as follows: For laying sheet asphalt pavement..... \$1.77
For laying vitrified block gutters...... 1.40
For laying asphalt block pavements..... 1.65 For resurfacing and repair work the prices are as follows: For laying standard asphalt pavement, \$1.59

The prices for the current fiscal year

oot, measured in cart. There are a number of streets in the city paved with granite or Belgian blocks, which should be replaced with cides: 1,038 bodies were received at the a smooth pavement. These pavements were laid many years ago under conditions differing from those existing toon which they are laid. There is a provision contained in the District ap-

propriation acts prohibiting the replacthe year was 563; the average per capita ing of these block pavements with smoother pavements under the apthat of employes, was \$188.19; exclusive Propriation for paving streets and avenues, so that when they are recommended it is necessary to make a spe-They consisted of prisoners in the work- cial item of them. In the estimates for the fiscal year 1912, the Commissioners have included items for replacing two ployed. Good results in some cases have such streets, namely, 7th street, be- been obtained from the use of calcium E street, between 11th and 13th streets pheric moisture in ordinary weather keeps plocks which would thereby be removed age amount of moisture in the air is concan be used economically in paving siderable. The emulsion oil has been

The roadways of School street northwest, between Irving and Lamont which are applied directly without emulstreets, 13th street between Euclid sifying seem better a aped to suburof 14th street, from Florida avenue to where there is little if any foot travel Clifton street, were paved with a ma- and a large amount of autombobile travel terial known as asphaltic macadam. It will be necessary to provide in future It is desirable that the necessary area This is practically a combination of an road construction for oiling or tar or asasphalt and macadam roadway, and it phaltic binders wherever a heavy autois a pavement whose use is economical mobile traffic is to be expected, on acfor appropriate street conditions. It is tion known as Klingle Ford valley, includ- contemplated to continue the use of this travel on ordinary macadam roads.

Grade Damages.

The work of the grade-damage claims roads. Oiling will cost from 3 to 7 cents commission in ascertaining the damages rutty roads must be thoroughly repaired in the grade of streets and alleys, due in first-class condition and thoroughly oil-The impressive natural beauty of this in the grade of streets and an of the Union railroad ed or otherwise treated they can be maintract and its proximity to the Zoological to the location of the Union railroad tained at a high standard at comparaings, is still in progress.

and determined, involving 170 roads of the District of Columbia which pieces of real estate. In ninety-two have not been paved are in a very wretchthese cases damages were awarded ed state, due to the automobile and to and owners aggregating \$104,810. In insufficient expenditures for maintenance. forty-one cases the commission awarded no damages. The Commissioners exressed dissatisfaction with awards in hirty-six cases, whereupon a court set mpanel a jury. In thirty-two of these cases compromises were effected without jury trials, and the cases settled for \$11,375.50 less than the total awards

During the year sixty-seven petitions or damages were filed, making a total rganized. The total amount paid out by the Dis-

trict in settlement of these grade damages, up to the close of the fiscal year, was \$403,243.10.

f the commission.

New Street Railways.

structed during the year, one by the Baltimore and Washington Transit Company and the other by the Washington, pa Spring and Gretta Railroad Com-

Takoma Park via 3d street, Kennedy ection of 14th street northwest. the tracks of this company have been the line of Q street, including the con-laid, the road was not in operation within demnation of the necessary land aphe time required in the charter. The Washington, Spa Spring and Gretta long the Bladensburg road from the Dis- is to start the work. riet line to 15th and H streets northeast. This road has recently been placed in trol of the District of Columbia, the apoperation, though all the work of track proximate cost of which has been onstruction and the improvement of the \$3,400,000. adjacent roadway, required by its charter, has not been entirely completed. The cars of the Washington, Baltimore and Annapolis Company enter the Disrict of Columbia over the lines of the Washington Railway and Electric Company to 15th street and New York ave-

nue, giving a through service between the center of the city and the cities of Baltimore and Annapolis. This company has no charter in the District of Columbia, but enters the District under a lease with the Washington Railway and Electric

ion to the necessity of a central passenger station for interurban and other electric cars. It is believed that the construction of such a station should be required of the street railway companie as a matter of public convenience. A station similar to that at Indianapolis Ind., is a sample of what is needed here The structure should be located somewhere in the vicinity of New York avenue and 15th street, and should be of dignified

character, so as to constitute an ornament to the city. Resurfacing Pavements.

pavements. These pavements aggregate insufficient to prevent the average age from increasing. About twenty years represents the effective and economical ife of such pavements This matter was called to the attention of Congress at its last session, and the appropriation for this work during the fiscal year 1911 increased from \$300,00 to \$400,000. Four hundred and fifty thousand dollars has Unless at least \$400,000 is appropriated annually, the average age of all the pavements will continue to increase; that s to say, there will be a progressive Improvement of Roadways deterioration of street surfaces. In the expenditure of these funds the pavements

The use of the "burner method" in The final work was the paving of the repair work, which was given its first new asphalt material placed and rolled. asphalt and asphalt block.

While the acts of Congress above referred to provided for the eliminating of grade crossings within the city limits, and in a small piece of territory lying to the north thereof, there were still left several grade crossings on much-traveled highways, such as Benning road, Cedar street in Takoma Park, and Pennsylvania avenue extended. In the last District appropriation act authority was granted to eliminate the grade crossing method" to demonstrate whether the surmethod" to demonstrate whether the surmethod is more asphalt material places and rolled. The old method used was to cut out the worn surface and replace it with new material. The new method is more economical when the thickness of the aging a little over an inch. If greater thickness is advisable, it has not been demonstrated that the use of the "heater must be given the use of the "heater must be given the use of the "heater method" to demonstrate whether the surmethod" to demonstrate whether the sur-

For the present fiscal year (1911) the prices are as follows:

For large jobs adjoining paved streets. \$0.971/2
For large jobs adjoining unpaved streets,
and for all small jobs There is a constant demand for the laying of cement sidewalks and the paving of alleys. In this work one-half of the cost is assessed against the abutting

County Roads and Suburban Streets. About \$249,000 was expended for th construction and repair of county roads and suburban streets, of which \$100,000

Experiments made during the year in the use of oil in connection with dust laying comewhat greater than that for the or roadways in other portions of the Dis- found well adapted to residential streets trict, where this would be a proper and also to macadamized roads with heavy travel. The heavy oils, such as those containing 40 to 50 per cent asphalt count of the destructive effect of fas The additional cost of bituminous binder will add about 25 per cent to the present cost of the construction of macadam per square yard per annum. Worn-out or

The old Navy Yard bridge across the was removed. This bridge was replaced by the new Anacostia bridge.

tively small expense. For a number of

years the expense of getting the roads in

of 16th street extended was completed, with the exception of the placing of four which are to be placed at each side of the two entrances to the bridge. Contract has been let for this work. District appropriation act for strengthencreek on the line of Calvert street, and increased and the vibrations which have treet, and Colorado avenue to the inter- an appropriation of \$75,000 toward con-

bridge, including approaches, is estimated Railroad Company built a line of track at \$275,000, and the appropriation asked There are 160 bridges under the con-

Surveyor's Office.

The work in the office of the surveyor shows a decided increase over that of the previous year, as indicated by the follow-

The fees received for work done for private parties amounted to \$22,891.80 while those of the previous year amounted to \$20,544.76, an increase of \$2,847.04. building operations and development

This was due to increased activity in suburban property. Twenty-two miles of new streets were created in connection with subdivisions, In addition to the ordinary work of the Maryland sewage is discharged in increassurveyor's office, a special survey was made of the sites for the workhouse at towns.

Occoquan, Va., which contains 1,154.7 acres, and for the reformatory at Accotink, Va., which contains 1,500 acres. A copographical survey was also made o he former site. There is pending in Congress a bill to authorize the surveyor to designate old subdivisions, such as Meridian Hill. Mount Pleasant, Takoma Park, etc. hy square numbers, such as exist in the city limits, and it is desirable that this legislation be enacted, so that transfers can be made more easily of this property, and it can be better identified for taxa-

Legislation is also recommended for th vision known as Barry Farm. The streets in this subdivision are owned by the adjacent property, and for that reason no ther delay. improvements in the way of sewer, water and roadways can be made on them.

Street and Alley Extensions. The following street-extension measures were passed during th eyear Park place along west line of Soldiers'

Home grounds. Franklin street, from 24th street to Bladensburg road. To acquire land in the vicinity of Con-

necticut avenue bridge for the extension of certain streets. Twenty-third and R streets southeast. Military road northwest, through parcels 87-17 and 87-16 Fourth street, Congress Heights, with Fourth street, Washington Highlands. Forty-first street from Harrison stree north to Keokuk street. Princeton place from Georgia avenuto Rock Creek Church road. Columbia road northwest through par-

cels 95-2 95-4 and 95-5. Nineteenth street from Belmont road t Biltmore street. Massachusetts avenue from Wisconsin avenue to the District line. And the opening of a new road along the Anacostia river to Giesboro Point. Condemnation cases were filed during the year to open alleys in squares 32, 2854, 2834, 2580, 1035, 2815, 2862, 2581, and

One of the most important street-exten-

\$5,000, and the surveyor recommends an immediate appropriation for the purpose The value of having such a record i apparent, as it would prevent expensive lawsuits and much delay in the future development of the park system along

the Eastern branch. Trees and Parking.

during the year was 4,030. This was an sible height of combustible buildings and of repairs expended in repairing plumbing increase of thirty over the preceding an increase in the permissible height of in the public schools \$6,878.53. year. The number of trees removed was hotels and apartment and tenement 2,151, making a net increase of trees dur- houses three stories in height or over be ing the year of 1,879. The number of of fireproof construction up to and inrees on streets, parking, and in school cluding the main floor. Since the passage ards at the close of the fiscal year was of this act there has been a material 7,954. The mileage of streets planted change for the better in the design of with trees is 535.30, an increase during apartment houses, many of which are the year of about six miles. This mileage now constructed so as to be fireproof was figured on a basis of 352 trees per throughout. mile. The amount expended in the planting and care of trees was \$41,674.60. The varieties of trees planted were ash, elm, gingko, linden, Norway and sugar maples, red, pin, and pyramidal oaks, sycamore, and tulip. Six thousand seven hundred and sixtyeight seedlings were planted in the nurse-

the work under this head during the year is done by eight field inspectors, and plaza. Thirty-two pin-cak trees were set each building. This is not believed to be out in the continuous space at the outer sufficient, and it is believed that more tinuous tree space was sown with grass. means of transportation were furnished. Because of the limited funds appropriated for the care of trees and parking, it has not been possible effectually to keep down the growth of weeds in the parking on suburban streets. For the same reagiven proper attention. These unpaved trips are provided for the express benefit of the trees and should be sowed in cause accident, and that no serious accigrass, both for the benefit of the trees dents involving the loss of life have oc- inspections. end for the improved appearance of the curred during the year. Under the restreets which would thereby be created. vised elevator regulations, the general Generally speaking, the amount appropriated for the care of trees and parking of a very high order. The policy inau-It is the intention of the Commissioners weekly examinations for the licensing o to ask for an increased appropriation elevator operators has been continued for the next fiscal year. While the with splendid results in increased effigrowth of the District has been continu- clency and safety to the public. An im- | \$3,192.90. It is provided by law that the

Sewers Extended 26 Miles; Stream Pollution Menace

mained at the same figure for many

during the year was about 26 miles. trict of Columbia on June 30, 1910, was \$1,984. to private property caused by changes before olling. When our roads are once 567.98 miles. Of this, 119.20 miles are main sewers and 448.78 miles are pipe Construction of Municipal Buildings. minimum of 18.63 candles. At the central station the mean was 22.32 has been of great value in ridding the

June 30, 1910, was \$10,860,556.62. The cost 30, 1910, was \$4,095,630.70.

Suburban Sewers.

Reno, Chevy Chase, Cleveland Park, Pet- Prior to that time it was part of the worth, Brightwood, Takoma Park, and duties of the inspector of buildings. of suburban service sewers constructed in of this duty, with twenty-eight buildings, the gas supplied by the Washington Gasany one year. The wide dispersion of additions, and other structures awaiting Light Company. population, due to the extension of street the preparation of plans, specifications railway facilities, has developed a large and contracts. District, and notwithstanding the consid- all such buildings for which appropriaerable mileage of sewers constructed, as tions have been made, with the exception above referred to, the sewerage system | has not kept pace with the growth of the Manual District. Suburban conditions, as they house on Pennsylvania avenue southeast, once existed, practically no longer obtain, and a water-supply system and a two buildings are now in course of prepasewer system are now practically a ration. health requirement throughout the District. The number of dwellings without sewer connections has recently increased the efforts to extend the sewer system to now 3,000 dwellings without available sew. ers, and several hundred with subsoil drains and other temporary expedients for taking care of house drainage. As the natural water courses are filled by the grading of streets and the development of property, artificial water courses must be provided to take care of storm! water, and this branch of the service is tember.

much in arrears. Sewerage Pumping Station.

year. The sewage of substantially the entire District was delivered to the outlet The total amount of storm water pumped was 821,000,000 gallens and of sewage

25,049,683,000 gallons. The amount of coal used was 8,018,400 pounds.

Stream Pollution.

Attention is again invited to the subadjacent to the District of Columbia. The to exclude all sewage from these streams: at the same time just across the line in

The only adequate solution of the problem of preventing this pollution is the extension of intercepting sewers up the towns. The only practicable method of handling the matter is to authorize by the securing of the necessary appropriations to provide the intercepting sewers above referred to On account of the 12th and D sts. n.e... division of jurisdiction, requiring joint federal and state legislation, the problem is exceedingly complex. It is important, however, that the matter be given consideration without fur-

\$16.365.611 Expended in '10 for Buildings and Repairs of the municipal architect:

The estimated value of building work street between 13th and 14th streets amount expended in the work by the during the year, not including the buildings of the United States government, was \$16,431,946, which was an increase over the value of building work for the Training School, plans completed. preceding year of \$1,646,887; the number of permits issued was 10,937, an increase over the previous year of 1,032. The number of dwelling houses constructed was 2,023, a decrease of 147 over the preceding year; the number of apartment | completed. houses erected was 79, an increase of 1 over the preceding year. The number of business buildings erected was 320, an increase of 113 over the previous year. The total number of new buildings erected was 2,546, an increase of 136 over the previous year. The distribution of the value of these improvements, including repairs to existing buildings, is as follows:

 Northeast
 \$1,140,596

 Southeast
 483,360

 Northwest
 4,367,986

 Southwest
 307,068

274,239 712,233 Total\$13,384,774 \$2,980,837

Making a total for buildings erected and repairs of \$16,365,611. There are estimated to be 54,245 brick

roadways and for repairing and The appropriation for the office of the furnaces inspector of buildings for the fiscal year was \$29,230.

> three years, were completed and promulgated November 15, 1900. An act of Congress approved June 1, 1910, changed the law regulating the and for repairs to police stations \$5,500. height o. buildings. The most important These appropriations were practically all The number of trees planted on streets changes were a reduction in the permis- expended. In addition, the superintendent

Inspection of Private Buildings. All private building construction in the

District of Columbia is inspected under

Elevator Inspection.

The elevators in the District of Columfree from defective mechanism tending to per cent in the number of premises inconstruction of new elevators has been gurated during the last year of holding maintenance of trees has practically re- license badges to operators.

Inspection of Boilers.

The number of steam boilers inspected free from hydrogen sulphide.

The total cost of the sewerage system to the District of Columbia, including school There were 133 claims for damages order will be considerable. The streets and of the sewage-disposal system to June buildings, police stations, fire-engine placed by an act of Congress approved ments at one station and on thirteen days in fact not condemnable, as they are created designated as municipal architect. At the beginning of the year the muni ipal architect entered upon the discharge

> Actual construction has been started on near Minnesota avenue. Plans for these

fiscal year 1911 made all appropriations able upon the passage of the act, instead year on July 1. This was an important exceed the legal limit and no hydrogen change in previous practice and enabled the work to be started in procuring the sites and preparing plans with no loss of time. This provision should be extended to cover repairs to buildings also, espeperiod begins in the latter part of June and extends to about the middle of Sep-

Of the 28 structures for which appropriations have been made, the plans and specifications for one-half were prepared entirely by employes in this office. In the other 14 buildings, private architects specifications, for which they received a commission of 31/2 per cent. It is impracticable with the force now provided for by law for the office of the municipal and 213 for motor cycles. Temporary perarchitect to have all of the work of designing the buildings done in that office. An innovation in the plans for school buildings has been made during the year in having these buildings designed with flat roofs and parapet walls so that they may be used for open-air classes.

The total cost of buildings under con struction during the year was \$920,714 The following table gives a list of municipal buildings completed during the year or in course of construction: Building, name, number, description and location. Contents, feet. permits \$1,292, a total of \$6,044. The Cubic ft. Cents. nvenience station No. total amount collected from the same underground. 9th and K streets n.w....\$18,632 27,042 27,300 119,940 22,7

lumbia road near Sherstreet near 22d street 5, brick and tile, Dupont Circle..... ... 11.090 10th and E sts. s.w.. Cleveland Park. 58.850 Benning, addition, brick,
Benning, D. C.
Chevy Chase, addition, Western High, addition, brick, 35th and T 70,200 Brookland, 2-room brick, Bunker Hill road.... streets n.w... Plans for the following buildings, for

which appropriations have been made, are cases the work was done by the owner now being prepared under the supervision and 17 cases by the District of Columbia, northwest, plans completed. Twelve-room school building, 8th and 7

Chemical engine house, Randle High- repairs to and changes in the plumbing prising the shores and bed of the stream. lands, plans completed. Eight-room school building, Randle High ands, plans completed.

Central heating plant, M Street High, Simmons and Douglass schools, plans

The plumbing in twelve school buildings to the general welfare of the people, as Two hundred and twelve additional fire to the general welfare of the people, as Two hundred and twelve additional fire to the general welfare of the people, as Two hundred and twelve additional fire to the general welfare of the people, as Two hundred and twelve additional fire to the general welfare of the people, as Two hundred and twelve additional fire to the purposes of navigation and underly and laid during the year, making the total for such other purposes as may conduce to the general welfare of the people, as Normal School No. 1, 11th and Harvard streets northwest, plans started.

Six-room school building at Ivy City, plans started Architects have been commissioned to tional appropriation will be necessary. | owners are invested with no rights.

the following buildings: Addition to the Armstrong Manual Training School Manual Training school on the grounds the plumbing in other buildings. of the Cardozo School. Six-room manual training school on the site of the old High Street School, 33d street and Wisconsin avenue. Engine house No. 24, at the intersection of Georgia and New Hampshire

avenues northwest. Repairs to Municipal Buildings.

All municipal buildings are kept in repair by the superintendent of repairs,

Five thousand dollars was appropriated

for deep wells in school yards in the The building regulations, which have suburban sections, and this amount was been undergoing revision for the last expended in digging wells for eight For repairs and improvements for engine houses \$10,000 was appropriated

Electrical Department.

making the net increase during the year 760 lamps. The total number of lamps

in service is 14,689, made up as follows: Gas mantle lamps..... 9,090 Naphtha lamps
Electric incandescent lamps.
Street-designation gas lamps. 499
Street-designation electric lamps 29 Street-designation electric lamps..... 29

Nine and seventy-nine one-hundredths miles of cable were installed during the placed in service. The total number at the end of the year was 500. The number edge of the isles of safety and the con- time could be given to buildings if better of fire alarms received and transmitted during the year was 1,145, of which 62 The total number of patrol boxes in service at the end of the year was 320. The total number of telephone, telegraph and electric light and trolley poles work of electric wiring inspection during

the year shows an increase of nearly 100 spected and 25 per cent in the number of The fees paid for permits and tificates amounted to \$5,172.

Gas and Meter Inspection.

us, and the extension of tree service has provement in this regard could be made, illuminating power of gas furnished by had to keep up with this growth, the however, by legislation authorizing the charging of fees and the issuance of 22 candles, and that the gas shall not contain more than 20 grains of sulphur in 100 cubic feet, nor more than 5 grains of 456 were white and 31 colored. The gas supplied by the Georgetown with oil gas, while that supplied by the from fees paid by the owners of the Washington Gas-Light Company is a mix-The total length of sewers constructed boilers. The total amount received from ture of coal gas and carbureted water such fees during the year was \$2,450, and gas. The gas is tested at three stations. The total length of sewers in the Dis. the expense of inspection, \$466, leaving a In the southeast station tests of the gas structurally that they are not condemn net compensation to the inspector of supplied by the Washington Gas-Light with a maximum of 28.93 candles and a board. candles, maximum 25.9 candles, and the station the mean was 23.61 candles, max-

> at two stations, and on one day it was below at all three stations. On most of these days the lowest result obtained was between 21 and 22 candles. At no time during the year did the tests show the presence of more than the Hydrogen sulphide was found present or one day in tests at the three stations

and on four other days in the test at

mum 27.29 candles and the minimum

some one station. Tests of the gas furnished Georgetown Gas Light. Company showed Training School and the engine the mean to be 22.92 candles, maximum 27.31 candles, and minimum 17.94 candles. candlepower was below the legal requireand 22 candles. On fourteen days excess in the amoun of awaiting the beginning of the fiscal the amount of sulphide found in this gas

sulphide was found in the gas,

year amount to 22,862, an increase of 1,774 over the previous year. The fees

Automobile Board

The automobile board examined 2,329 for gasoline vehicles, 92 for steam vehicles. mits were granted to 115 applicants. Duplicate permits were issued to 115 operators.

Numbers were assigned to 186 electric vehicles, 1,698 gasoline vehicles, 62 steam charged for these tags were \$2 each. In addition there were also issued tags for 11 motor vehicles and 2 motor cycles be- providing for the condemnation of inlonging to the United States and the District of Columbia for which no were paid. The fees received for identification tags amounted to \$4,752, and for operators'

source during the last fiscal year was \$3,368. Plumbing Inspection.

During the year the plumbing office made 44,953 inspections, which was an during the previous year. A number of amendments were made to the plumbing regulations during the tice of plumbing uniform, and to pre vent complaints on the part of the public and plumbers.

This office also has charge of the indences under the compulsory drainage act upon the failure of the owner of the premises, after notice, to do the work. There were 30 cases of this character on hand at the beginning of the fiscal year, and 45 cases were received during the year, making a total of 75. In 27 and the cost assessed against the property. The other cases are pending. The

District was about \$1,500. Plumbing in Public Schools.

of the older school buildings so as to "2. That the United States holds such bring them up to modern sanitary re- title and dominion in trust for the public was generally remedeled. This work is to which Congress, as the representative not yet finished, as many of the older of the people, is the sole judge. school buildings still contain the old- "3. That as against the United States style insanitary plumbing, and an addi- in the execution of such trusts, riparian work in conjunction with the municipal The sum of \$35,000 is necessary for "4. That so long as the government conarchitect in the preparation of plans for this work during the next fiscal year, fines its operations in any scheme of im- 2,716 fire hydrants, 229 public hydrants, and it is intended to expend it in re- provement to the space aforesaid it incurs and 4 drinking fountains. modeling the plumbing completely in five no liability under the fifth amendment to There are also in service 11 shallow buildings and to make minor repairs to the Constitution, which requires that "pri- wells and 30 deep wells.

Public Convenience Stations.

be opened shortly. The appropriation tion.

7,398,085. These stations have free compartments and pay compartments. The fees received from the pay compartments amounted to \$1,766.71, an increase of about \$600 over those received for the last fiscal year.

Public Baths.

Attention is invited to the necessity for the establishment of public bathing places in the city. Free public baths exist in a vania Avenue bridge can be done more sioners believe that Washington should not be behindhand in this respect There ew street lamps were established during is a large class of people in the city who have no bathing facilities at their homes, and it is this class which the public

Condemnation of Buildings.

The board for the condemnation of in-

baths would reach.

ings, and issued orders requiring 222 to be Anacostia river front...... 503.10 demolished and 284 repaired. Of those ordered demolished and repaired, some had been examined in the preceding year. about 2 miles. The total available water The total number of buildings examined frontage practicable of commercial develby the board since its creation on May 1, 1906, to June 30, 1910, was 1,796, of which the frontage set apart for parks and pur-504 were in alleys and 1.202 in streets. peses of the United States government Of this number 1,008 were ordered de- amounting to about 8 miles. molished and 676 repaired. Of those ordered demolished, 655 were in streets and der lease is that along the Washington 343 in alleys, and of those repaired, 432 channel, slightly less than a mile in were in streets and 244 in alleys. The length, the longest term lease expiring tr pending cases number 112, of which ! 81 are in streets and 31 in alleys. alleys required to secure other quarters is largely undeveloped owing to the unthrough action of the board during the certainty regarding the ownership of year was 754. The total number since the reation of the board was 2,922. The number of tenants in streets alleys benefited by repairs during the year was 831, and the total number since

the structures and not of the land. rental value of these houses was \$16,-

ngs has been accomplished by action of the appropriation. Eight cases were required to be taken into court, and two cases are pending in court. of condemned buildings during the year. ammonia in 100 cubic feet, and shall be Many of these tenants have removed, and others are removing, to the suburbs in the outlying sections of the District and Gas-Light Company is a coal gas enriched adjacent portions of Maryland and Virinia, where they rent or purchase cheap nomes with fairly large-sized lots. The majority of houses located in alleys at the present time are of such character able under the law, but are required to be

Company gave a mean of 23.1 candles, kept in repair under notice from the Not all of such houses can be removed existing in many parts of the District drainage facilities.

Recreation Centers, Parks. Water Front Improvement

The Commissioners have included heir estimates for the fiscal year 1912 an tem of \$125,000 for the purchase of the tional parks and parkways should be acinterior of square 534, lying between B quired in the District of Columbia, and known as "Willow Tree alley." This is object of securing information and estihealth departments to be such that its sage of such legislation. They believe ise as a place of habitation should no that the present time is not too soon to onger be permitted. It is the intention prepare plans and surveys for locating of the Commissioners to acquire by condemnation such an amount of land in inite system whereby their acquisition can addition to that covered by the alley as be extended over a period of years. Land may be necessary for the development of in the District of Columbia is being rap-The permits for various purposes other an interior playground and recreation cially of school buildings, as the vacation chan building permits issued during the center, and to erect therein a substantial structure to afford bathing and playground facilities. The object in view is to begin the eradication of the evils arising from these densely inhabited alleys in central poro aid the social and moral uplift of the

they can not be condemned under the law sanitary buildings, so that the only method of securing their removal is through acquiring the land on which they are built, which the above item contemcompelled to remove from the alley can find more sanitary conditions and generports of the board indicate that when insanitary buildings are condemned the greater portion of the inhabitants find new homes in such suburban sections.

where their moral and social conditions are much improved.

stallation of plumbing in private resi-1 costia river. The counsel employed was This report was forwarded to Congress believe that some means should be adoptoy the Commissione.'s under date of ed to make this large park more acces-March 26, 1910, and was printed as Senate Document No. 462, Sixty-first Congress, econd session. The conclusions reached by Mr. Taggart from his investigations on the matter

were as follows: "1. That the United States, under the tion as is desirable on account of Constitution and the cession from Mary- quate facilities for getting to it. land, is vested, as sove. eign, with absolute title and dominion in and over the space between high-water mark on each Water System Extended; The appropriation of \$30,000 made for side of the Anacostia river, and com-

vate property shall not be taken for public use without just compensation," and that land reclaimed through such im-The two public convenience stations lo- provement will belong absolutely to the United States.

cated at 7th street and Pennsylvania "The above statement applies to that

bripise under the railroad tracks at this point. Plans for this work are now being prepared.

The Commissioners have included in the frestimates for the fiscal year 1912 and asking and 310,000 was expended in paving grade crossing at Benning in a similar meaner.

The Roadway Pavements.

There are estimated to be 54,245 brick and alleys.

There are estimated to be 54,245 brick all grant by the superintendent of repairs, proposed their estimates for the direction of the municipal architect.

There are estimates for the municipal architect conventience station at the direction of the municipal architect.

There are estimated to be 54,245 brick buildings and 24,708 frame buildings and 24,708

wo stations now in operation was and reclaiming the flats along that portion of the Anacostia river from the Potomac river to the navy-yard or Anscostia bridge. It is assumed that this latter improvement will be continued to the Pennsylvania Avenue bridge, which is the head of navigation on this stream, under appropriations for rivers and harbors. and the estimate above referred to is for continuing the improvement of this river and the flats above that point. It is believed that the work above the Pennsylnumber of other cities, and the commis- economically if it is done in conjunction with the work now being done under the direction of the chief of engineers on the lower part of the river.

Harber Front. The total amount received from rentals

lumbia under the charge of the Commis-James Creek canal...... 1,565.25 The actual water frontage in the Disopment is about 18 miles, including

The most important wharf property un-1913. This frontage is in much need improvement. The frontage along the Anacostia river abutting land and riparian rights. Investigations are now in progress to deter-

mine the rights of the United States to this frontage. The Jam's Creek canal, which formerly extended from G street to the Anacostia river, has been filled to about N street From N street to P street the banks of the canal are under lease. From P street to the Anacostia river the canal extende on one side along the grounds of the War College and Engineer School. It has been suggested to the Commissioners that it might be advisable to fill this canal entirely and build over it a street or boulevard leading from South Capitol street to the Anacostia river, and this matter is now under consideration. The wharves along the Georgetown channel of the Potemac river are under private control, with the exception of the foot of streets. A steam railroad has re-

and it is believed that this frontage will become much more commercially valuable by reason of this improvement. The Commissioners again call attention to their report on the improvement of the water front, which was forwarded to Congress May 23, 1908, and printed as Senate Document No. 519, Sixtleth Congress, first session. No appropriation has been made as recommended in this report for the improvement of the harbor front, but it is the intention of the Commissioners at an early date to make definite

cently been extended along Water street,

tion along this line.

Legislation was enacted at the last Con-

gress authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to acquire for a public park the properly lighted, are dry, have tight land included between Euclid street, 15th roofs, and ample heating, ventilating, and street, W street, and 16th street extended, in that portion of the District formerly known as Meridian Hill, this tract containing about 437,000 square feet. In the same law the Commissioners were directed to acquire for a park a tract of land Heights, containing about 16 acres. No appropriations for these parks were made authorize the appointment of a commisparks could be based. The bill introduced for this purpose, however, failed of en-actment, and it is the intention of the Commissioners to again request the pasare selected in the near future the cost of obtaining them later will be almost pre-

Rock Creek Park. The appropriation for the care and maintenance of the park during the year the board of control of Rock Creek Park. consisting of the Commissioners and the chief of engineers, U. S. A., to purchase 1 acre in extent adjoining the northern boundary of the park, for a sum not to exceed \$400.

Owing to the difficulty encountered securing a good title to the small parcel eys. Unfortunately the buildings in this impracticable to acquire it. The app alley are of so substantial a nature that priation was therefore entirely spent in the care and maintenance of the ros paths and grounds, but little new

extended, near Kennedy street, and to oil a part of the roads in the park where sprinkling is difficult. It is also intended when funds permit, to extend the system of macadamized roads, to build shelters. and to gradually open to general use the portion of the park above the Military road. A proposition was submitted to the board of control last year by the Canital Traction Company to extend a spur Kennedy street into the park in order to rive street railway access to the park. congress was requested to authorize its construction. The authority, however sible to the general public. By the construction of roadways and bridle paths ready access can be obtained to all parts of the park by that portion of the pu which uses horses and vehicles. The greater portion of the public, however

Underground Waste Stopped Twenty-two miles of water mains were laid during the year, making the total Two hundred and twelve additional fire hydrants, 10 public hydrants, 6 horse fountains, and 3 drinking fountains were erected during the year, and 38 fire hydrants and 22 public hydrants were abandoned. The total number in service is

Water Mains in Suburbs.

Two important trunk water mains 20 inches in diameter were laid to afford water service to suburban sections. The avenue and 13th street and Pennsylvania portion of the river not included in the first provided water service for Brightavenue were in operation during the year, immediate frontage of the city of Wash- wood, Petworth and Takoma Park, and and the new station in course of construc- ington upon it. The special features of was 9,357 feet in length. The second tion at 9th and K streets northwest will that frontage require separate considera- completed a 20-inch main from Reno reservoir to Chevy Chase circle. This was made last year for a public convenience their estimates for the fiscal year 1912 an made from this line to supply the subdi-